DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

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No subscriptions to either Daily or Weekly received for a longer time than six months.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Dec. 6, 1864.

S. F. Phillips:—

DEAR SIR:—Your friends are anxous to see the substance of your speech to day in print, and the wholesome truths it contained disseminated among the people.

Please furnish us with a full report of it at asearly a day as your convenience will allow.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

D. M. CARTER,
A. C COWLES,
EUGENE GRISSOM,
THOS A. ALLISON,
R. S DONNELL,
DAN'L G. FOWLE,
M. McGEHEE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Dec. 6, 1864.

Col. Carter and others:

GENTLEMEN:—I will comply with your request within a day or two.

Thanking you for the compliment you have paid me, and wishing the speech were more worthy of it,

I am, very truly,

Your friend and servant,

S. F. PHILLIPS.

SPEECH OF

SAML. F. PHILLIPS, ESQ.,

OF ORANGE,

In the House of Commons of North Carolina, Tuesday December 6th 1864, on the subject of impressments.

MR. SPEAKER:—

Recent occurrences in the county of Orange have suggested to me the propriety of introducing the resolutions which have just been read. I do not mean to say that Orange has suffered more from the action of agents for impressments than the other counties of the State, but the recency of that action among my constituents rendered it proper that *I* should call the attention of the Legislature to it.

The preamble to those resolutions asserts truths which no intelligent gentleman upon this floor, whether lawyer or not, will deny. I shall not trouble the House with an argument upon them. The first of the resolutions which follow, makes allegations which, if true, are palpable violations of the rights asserted in the preamble. The only question which arises upon that resolution is as to its truth. And upon this question, I might perhaps make a witness of every gentleman upon this floor. For I can hardly doubt that every one here has been so far personally cognizant of facts going to establish this point that he might be called as a witness to establish it before a court and jury.

Within the last two weeks an agent of the Confederate States has impressed in the county of Orange 160 horses and mules at an average price, as I was informed by an officer of the government engaged in the transaction, of about $700 each. I enquired of the same gentleman what was the average market value of the animals thus taken, and was answered "at least $2,100 each." It appears, then, that by this single operation, the Confederate States' government has forcibly seized for its own use more than $300,000 worth of property; and left in the hands of its owners little scraps of brown paper, promising to pay at some indefinite period about $100,000! In simple language, it is a transaction by which that government has possessed itself of $200,000 worth of property without paying a single dollar of equivalent! It has, by its agents, acting under a regularly organized system, *robbed* certain persons whom those agents have selected within the county referred to, of $200,000. The county which I have the honor in part, to represent in this House, makes up a Senatorial district, and contains about *one-fiftieth* of the property in the State. Doing these impressment agents the justice to suppose that they have been impartial in their visits to the various sections of the State, the House will see that they have in the item or horses and mules robbed the State of some $10,000,000 worth of property. I mean to say that in the name and under the machinery of the Confederate government, they have overawed certain citizens of North Carolina into delivering to that government property worth $15,000,000, at a nominal price of $5,000,000. This action comes fully up to my conception of the idea contained in the word *robbery*.

If the action which has recently taken place in Orange county were the consequence of the presumption of a subordinate agent of the government, it were more easily tolerated than now. Or if it arose from the occasionally irregular working of the machinery of that government it might be better borne. That it is part of the settled policy of the Confederate States, and the regular and intended effect of certain acts of Congress is that which gives this action its peculiar unpleasantness, and makes it the more imperative for this Legislature to utter its remonstrance and protest. When wrong is done under the color or of law, it becomes most dangerous.

I hold in my hand, a pamphlet containing the "General Orders" issued to the army from Richmond, from which it appears that this subject of impressment has occupied the attention of the government for several years. As early as the month of June 1862, an order was issued regulating this subject. Some months afterwards it appears by another order that great complaints had been made to the government in relation to it.—The complaints compelled Congress, about the month of April, 1863, to pass an act upon the subject, a great part of which is still in force. That act provides that where officers impress property that is in the hand of the producer, two referees (with liberty to select an umpire) shall be chosen by the officer and the owner respectively, and they shall settle the price to be paid; where the property is not in the hands of the producer, but of a man who holds it for sale, the price to be paid by the goverument shall be regulated by the schedule prices fixed by the Commissioners appointed for making the schedule. This difference between the producer and the other classes was maintained, however, for but a few days, as another act, passed before the 1st of May, 1863 provided that in all cases of impressment the impressing officer might endorse upon the award of the referees his disapproval, whereupon an appeal would lie to the Commissioners upon schedule prices. As these persons had already appraised property of the sort in dispute, it is clear that the practical operation of these laws in either case is to give the owner only schedule prices. For instance, in the case of a horse, the owner may always be sure that if he choose to make ever so much opposition it will result in his getting only the price of one or another of the classes under the schedule. A paper now in hand, being a warning to a gentleman in Orange that the government agent wished to buy a horse, makes this evident, for the proposal made by himself expressly to buy it at *schedule* prices, the penalty being an impressment. Of course such an officer would never approve an award by referees giving a greater price. He would appeal until he brought it where it was certain that none but schedule prices would be given. So well, indeed is this understood, that, as I was informed, the referees at Hillsboro' confined themselves to assigning the horses to one or another of the classes in the last schedule. And might as well have been anticipated, in the whole assembly of irritated and outraged citizens, no one took *an appeal*.

In discussing this matter I am not to be cheated with words. I press through them into the substance of this transaction; and I gather the intention of the government from the uniform action of its agents through a period of years, and after its attention has confessedly again and again been called to the subject. What was done in my own county in November, 1864, has been done (and often in a much more galling manner) in other counties and other States, in the Spring and Fall of 1862—in the Spring and Fall of 1863, and in the Spring and Fall of 1864; and that which has been cited in regard to horses, has been done time and again in regard to wheat, corn, cattle and many other articles of property. I am not then to be abused by having pointed to my attention that the act of Congress provides in terms for a "just compensation." I reply that the act, after using these smooth words, inaugurates a system of proceedings which never has given the citizens that compensation of which it speaks. It of purpose keeps the word of promise to the ear, and breaks it to the hope. Throughout the whole State, and so far as I am informed throughout the whole country its operation has been uniform. It cannot be that such uniformity of action among many different persons who have no opportunity for consultation, has not been dictated by the common, scource of their appointment—I mean the government. Mr. Memminger and Mr. Trenholm, who have tried one wild experiment after another upon the currency make use of these commissioners of schedule prices in the course these experiments; and the instructions under which they act are to depress prices to a standard in accordance with some flighty notion these gentlemen entertain as to the value of Confederate Treasury notes. The are making their experiments at the expence of those persons whose property they impress. Upon what show of propriety is this done?

If the currency has depreciated because it is too abundant, experiments to raise its value should be tried at the general expense of the whole country. The method by which these experiments are to be made is taxation. No constitutional principle can be more axiomatic than this. The constitution prohibits all such trifling with private rights under the head of impressments, by stipulating on behalf of the citizens for a 'just compensation.' What an outrage, then, upon that constitution, is it for the Confederate Government to suggest to its commissioners as part of their duty in fixing impressment prices, to consult other influences than the general market value of an article! What a mixture of absurdity a grievious oppression is it to make private persons whose property is taken by the government, contribute far above their proportion towards establishing a state of things, the benefits of which belong to the public in general! Our indignation would rise all the higher did we fully appreciate the fanciulness and the eccentricity displayed in those experiments. The variety of their plans, and the solemn censure which one philosopher passes upon the unsuccessful experiments of his predecessor, carry the memory back to the age of the alchemists, and their marvellous endeavors to transmute the baser metals into gold. But it is not necessary in this argument to insist upon that, it is most plain that even if these experiments resulted in success, they should be made at the expense of the whole community.

I am not understood as denying to the government the right to seize private property wh never needed for its use. It has a perfect right to do so. The point upon which I have insisted is that it must pay just compensation therefor. It must pay for such property, all that a private person would have to pay for it. The government has only one advantage in such matter over the citizen who wishes to buy. It can compel a sale. But it cannot force upon the owner a less price than his neighbors would have given had he been disposed to sell.

I insist that the Confederate States cannot practice *taxation* under the name of *impressment*. This they have been doing repeatedly; and thereby have broken their constitutional obligations not only upon the subject of just compensation, but also upon that which apportions taxation. In the case which I have referred to in Orange county, if the government had levied a tax upon the owners of the property taken to the amount of $224,000, they could have sold the property that was impressed, paid the tax, and upon that retained in their pockets in cash the amount of money for which they have now a government promise to pay whenever the Secretary of the Treasury shall think it a *good financial expedient* to issue the notes required for the purpose. Looking, then, through words to things, we have before us a most unconstitutional and flagrantly oppressive tax levied upon certain people in the county of Orange—*an unconstitutional and flagrantly oppressive tax!* which has been levied time and again in regard to various articles of property upon citizens through out most of the counties of the State.

It is not proper that the representatives of the people shall view these things in silence. After more than two years have passed since the inauguration of the system, surely it is not *too soon* for the Legislature of North Carolina to express its opinion of it in plain and vigorous language. This matter of the security of private property from the touch of government is a *point of honor* in the peculiar civil liberty which we inherit from our ancestors in England and upon this continent. Far back in English history, and from the very beginning of our own history, this has been considered a point of vital importance. We shall be recreant to our great public privileges, if we do not brand the assault which is now making upon this, their very point of honor in that free language which it is our right and duty to employ. John Hampden resisted the whole power of the English government in the case of Ship Money, when the assessment was only a matter of twenty shillings, and at that I ss than his ratable share of the tax, supposing that it were legal. For that he has become immortal with us. In this State the government has as yet met with no lawful resistance of these demands. This acquiescence is not upon the score of patriotism, for the people are indignant at the oppression. I know in my own county of gentlemen of most approved patriotism, whose eyes flashed fire at the thought of what had been done. It is idle to talk of a free people *loving* a government which robs them of their property. The Confederate government has only to persist in this course towards Southern men, and it will surely lose every vestige of their affection. They would be unworthy of their lineage and of their education if it were otherwise. They must forget many of the martyrs of their former liberty; they must become cold to many of the most touching incidents in the history of their race before they cease instinctively to turn upon any organization of power that trifles with their private property.

As to the character of the remedy possessed by the people in cases of inconstitutional impressments by the government *directly for itself*, I observe some difference of opinion between two of the ablest lawyers this continent has produced. Chancellor Kent regards it as the right and the duty of the citizens to *enjoin* the government; Chief Justice Ruffin regards such injunction impracticable, and says that the duty of Congress to give just compensation for property impressed is of that class of powers which the judiciary cannot enforce, but which must be "left" to the understanding and conscience of Congress. I submit to the House that which ever opinion shall be considered law, the Legislature is imperatively called upon for action, at least like that presented by the resolutions.

If it be that a person whose property has been impressed has this remedy of injunction, let us consider how significant a thing it is that in the midst of a spirited people, indignant at a notorious violation of their rights—a repeated violation in substantial respects—no one has been found to apply for this remedy! To what shall we attribute this inaction? I know of but one explanation; and that is, despair of successfully contending with the government, or the apprehension that if they succeed they may draw down upon themselves the malice of the myriad of officials that swarm in this land, and whose wrath would produce effects greatly overbalancing their gain by the litigation. For the rest, they remember that they have appealed to the Confederate government time and again without result, or if with result, the result of rendering the system of impressment more rigid and severe. If this apathy and sullen despair have taken possession of our people, let the voice of the legislature go forth like the blast of a trumpet to arouse them. Let it be to them what the example of Hampden was to the thousands of true Englishmen who had submitted to the ship money tax—a point for them to rally around! Hampden did not enquire whether he would offend the minials of royal power about the year 1630,—if there be such fear in North Carolina in 1864, having for its object the subordinates of the Confederate government, let us do what we may for its dissipation. Civil liberty is no weed springing spontaneously from the soil of favored regions. Its bright, consummate flower is the result of many ages of attention and skill. If it be not cultivated it will surely degenerate and come to nothing. Upon any appearance of its decay in North Carolina, it becomes us, who are in great measure its custodians here, at least to tend and water that frir plant whose beauty has been derived from the care and wisdom of those who have preceded us.

If, however, it be accepted that the citizen has no remedy in the process of the Courts, the remedy which this Legislature can give by a firm protest, to be followed, if disregarded, by such action as will enforce obedience to its wishes, is all that is left to our constituents. I have already said that the Confederate government has published record evidence that it pays little attention to the complaints of the citizens upon this topic. We will not refer them to that again. We will speak our own mind upon the subject, and we will take care that it shall be respected. North Carolina's wisdom in all matters pertaining to this war has been too well ascertained for any solemn words of hers to fall unheeded upon the "understanding and conscience" of the government. She has proved herself to be wise in council, and resolute in the field. What she says in behalf of the rights of her people will be heeded.

There is another topic in connection with this general question which deserves a notice. Some days ago this House was startled by the announcement of the Public Treasurer that he would require some $9,000,000 to defray the expenses of the current year. The idea of imposing a tax upon the people fourfold greater than that of the last year was frightful. It was well calculated to amaze legislators accustomed to the arithmetic of former years. Yet we see in the instance before us, the Confederate government snatching from the people in one article an amount greater than that, the thought of which had thrown us into such confusion. And when we consider the amount of other property thus seized, we may well remonstrate at the serious diminution which has been occasioned in the means of the people to support their State government. This very action of the Confederate States goes far to increase the discredit of the securities of the State.

If the Confederate government had paid a "just compensation" only to the owners of horses and mules for so much of that property as it has impressed there would have been more than a sufficiency of additional means among us to pay the demands upon the State Treasury during the next year.

I shall detain the House very briefly in discussing the merits of the other resolutions which I have introduced. Whilst indignant upon this subject of impressment, I thought it a proper occasion for the State to show itself not unobservant of, and not satisfied with the general course of legislation in Congress upon other matters connected with our liberty. Among these I would specify particularly the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*; the cry for *details*, instead of exemptions; and the scheme of placing *armed slaves* in our army. It may be said that the Confederate States ought not to be censured in the two latter respects, as it has not yet adopted either policy. I submit that we will not act prematurely in censuring projects which have already received the approbation, at least contingent and qualified, of the head of the government. I understand that large armies frequently make their advances upon the position of the enemy by degrees. One corps moves forward and takes its position, and then another makes a corresponding movement, and the movement of the whole is an aggregate of the movements of each department. It seems enough to me to detect a movement against our rights by one part of the government. This is the proper time for objection and opposition to the direction and character of the movement; and judging by our past experience of other departments of the government becoming gradually *educated* to the President's standard, it appears correct enough even now to stigmatize the steps taken by him as inchoate steps of the administration.

There are other acts of the Confederate government to which reference is made in this resolution. Of all such acts, whether specified here or not, I submit to this House that such is our sense, that, having been always free ourselves—having sprung from free generations in other lands, and from generations whose freedom North Carolina has nurtured during a century upon this soil—we reflect upon them with profound agitation!

The third resolution utters a truth which is apparent to every one. It is not only in regard to impressments, but it is in any other respects, that the experiments of the Confederate government upon the temper of North Carolina *have increased and are increasing!* The apprehensions of all thinking men are thoroughly aroused upon this subject. If such experiments have increased and are increasing, then most assuredly they ought to be diminished, and indeed come speedily to a full end.

It has always been my desire that the government of the Confederate States should enjoy liberally every power that is expressly or impliedly vested in it by the Constitution, especially in this time of pressing war. I have endeavored to make my private and public conduct and counsel conform to this standard; but I cannot believe that it is to the advantage of rulers or people that it should be indulged in unconstitutional and oppressive courses of action. If the *Southern white man* cannot obtain independence in the employment of constitutional methods of vindicating that independence, it is because Heaven has denied to him the boon.

[In reply to Mr. Shepherd, who had remarked upon the application of the words *rob* and *oppress* to the action of the Confederate States in reference to impressments; and who had protested against the general tone of the resolutions and the foregoing speech, on the ground that Mr. Davis is *our* President, and the Confederate States *our* government, Mr. Phillips said:]

Mr. Speaker: If the action of the Confederate States has produced the result which I have attributed to it; and if that action has been repeated and deliberate, then it involves necessarily the very idea contained in the words which I have used. I have no hesitation in repeating that any such unconstitutional action of the government in seizing private property, as has been described, is most grievous *oppression* and *robbery;* and I can entertain no scruples about dealing with such action with gloves off! It is no time to mince words.

I admit that Mr. Davis is *my* President and that the Confederate States is *my* government; and that is precisely my reason for speaksng of them, and for wishing the Legislature to address them, in terms of rebuke. I have no interest in discussing the conduct of the Czar of Russia, or of the President of the United States. The reason given by the gentleman from Cumberland for excepting the Confederate States, is precisely the reason I would assign for including it. How should we be interested in the domestic concerns of a government that is not *ours*? I should regard it as a poor excuse from a servant whom I should have occasion to reprove, if he were to offer, as a reason for excusing him, the fact of his being *my servant*! I cannot comprehend the pertinency of the objection. No doubt North Carolina voted for Mr. Davis, and assisted to elect him; and it is for that she regards him as responsible to her for his conduct, and will hold him to that responsibility.

DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

Vol. I.] RALEIGH, N. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1864. [No. 200.

DAILY CONSERVATIVE.

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DECEMBER, 1864.

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December 9, 1864. 197—d&w2t.

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Insane Asylum—Messrs. Carson, of Alexander, Riddick, Baxter, Peace and Smith of Cabarrus.

NOTICE.

A SPECIAL AGENT WILL LEAVE THIS OFFICE for the Army of Northern Virginia on the 18th inst., for the purpose of conveying such supplies as may be contributed to our soldiers as a Christmas offering by their friends at home.

EDWARD WARREN,
Surgeon Gen. N. C.

Raleigh, Dec. 7, 1864. 196—6t.

☞ City papers copy 1 week.

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HENRY E COLTON, Agt. F. K. Co.,

Fayetteville Nov. 22 1864 189—tf.

Claims for Deceased Officers and Soldiers.

WILSON, N. C., June 20, 1864.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS BEEN APPOINTED A COMmissioner to investigate, collect and pay over to the parties entitled thereto, all claims for bounty arrearages of pay and allowances, due to the representatives of deceased officers and soldiers from this State.

The parties entitled are: first, the widow of the deceased, if any. If there be no widow then, secondly, the child or children, if there be such, if there be neither widow or children then, thirdly, the father, if there be neither widow, child, children or father then, fourthly, the mother of the deceased, and in default of all of these then, fifthly, the executor or administrator of the deceased.

The claimant or claimants must furnish his, her or their affidavit, and that of one disinterested witness as to the relationship, and in all cases, where the claimant is not the widow, the affidavit must negative the existence of a claimants of a higher order. The Justice of the Peace, before whom the affidavit is subscribed must certify to the credibility of the witness, and Clerk of the County Court must certify, under the seal of the Court, that he is a Justice of the Peace.

If the claimant or claimant be a child or children of the deceased; and he, she or they be minors, the claim must be propounded by his, her or their guardian, and the fact of his being guardian must be certified to, under seal of the County Court Clerk.

When the claims is made by an executor or administrator, the fact of the executorship or seal by the County Court Clerk.

All of these papers should be sent in duplicate.

Any person directly interested will be furnished, upon application to me, with a proper form of these papers in full; a copy of which, for the greater convenience of parties, will be forwarded as soon as may be practicable to each County Court Clerk.

This commission is intended to facilitate the collection of these claims, and save the claimants all expense.

Parties interested may materially aid me in the investigation of their claims, if at the time of forwarding their paper to me, they will inform me of the date of the death of the deceased, where he died, was killed, whether or not they or any one for them, have received the personal effects which deceased had with him at the time of his death, and whether or not the deceased (if a non commissioned officer or private,) had ever received the State's bounty.

It is very desirable that all claims should be forwarded at as early as may be practicable. In all cases, give the claimants, Post Office and County in full.

NO. A. STANLY,
Commissioner.

161—tf.

THE KEY-STONE.

A MASONIC MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

ON THE FIRST OF JANUARY, 1865, I SHALL commence the publication of a Monthly Magazine under the above title, to be devoted to the interest of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

I believe that every good Mason will agree with me in the opinion that such a publication will be beneficial in enlightening our less informed brethren, and in dispensing many a calm, kind word of cheerfulness to the hearts and homes of thousands of worthy brothers, their widows and orphans. It will be my earnest purpose to bring to bear whatever humble ability I may possess to make it a reliable custodian of sound Masonic Law and Tenets, ever adhering closely to the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft in all their pristine strength and symmetrical beauty.

Trembling, lest I err, in clothing myself for so responsible an office, I shall engage upon the KEY-STONE such skilled editorial talent as shall keep the lights well trimmed and brightly burning, with the sincere hope that as our work goes forth each month, from the quarries of our labour it may pass an improved inspection and be acceptable to the head and to the heart of every good Master at whose home or hands it may be received.

TERMS:

One subscriber six months,	$ 10 00
Twelve subscribers six months,	100 00
Single copies,	2 00

Masons, Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Encampments will please send in their subscriptions at once.

Address

WM. B. SMITH, Proprietor,
Raleigh, N. C.

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JOHN G. WILLIAMS & Co.,

STOCK AND MONEY BROKERS,

Raleigh, N. C.,

CONTINUES TO CARRY ON THE BROKERAGE BUSIness at their old stand as heretofore in all its various branches.

DAILY CONSERVATIVE:

BY J. B. HEATHERY & CO.

TUESDAY, - - - DECEMBER 13, 1864.

☞ WE SHALL BE GLAD to have our friends who receive private dispatches or letters interesting to the public, to furnish them to us for publication.

☞ OUR CORRESPONDENTS writing to us from different parts of the State will greatly oblige us by giving us all the local items of interest in that particular section.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY. Both Houses got fairly to work yesterday and transacted much business.—Thursday next was appointed as the day for election of Councillors of State.

In the SENATE, the resolutions in reference to impressments by the Confederate authorities were reported upon unfavorably.

In the House, the *per diem* of members was fixed at $30, the *habeas corpus* resolutions of Mr. Fowle passed by yeas 63, nays 20.

SAMUEL F. PHILLIPS, ESQ. Our readers have noticed that the distinguished Commoner from Orange, Mr. Phillips has made a "personal explanation" from his seat in the House. He was unwilling to allow his usefulness as a member to be impaired by the accusation that he had violated the Constitution. His explanation to our mind is complete and satisfactory—indeed from his general character as an upright and consistent man in all the relations of life, we never believed that he had done anything blamable. He has acted in this case as is usual with him—under a careful and earnest sense of duty.

What are the facts? The last General Assembly at the request of Gov. Vance, directed a report to be made of all the blockade business of the State. They might have imposed such duty on a Committee of their own members, with compensation while engaged. Such a course is usual, and has never been considered as making the committee hold a place incompatible with their seats in the Assembly. The Assembly did not think the position such as to prevent the Auditor from accepting it. They tendered it to Mr. Phillips, so that in their judgment he might have held his office and performed this duty also. He, however, resigned the former place, and did not accept the latter *until after his election as Commoner*. And he discharged its duties before taking his seat. On this state of facts the *Confederate* charges Mr. Phillips with breaking the Constitution and thinks it presumption in him to discuss Constitutional questions before his election that paper indulged in ill natured criticism upon him. The first time he opens his mouth in the Assembly, that paper sneers at him.

We assure Mr. PHILLIPS that these attacks, so far from doing him an injury, have the effect of calling the public attention to his value as a public servant. His reputation as an able lawyer, accomplished scholar, and above all as a straight forward, conscientious, high toned, christian gentleman, are not and cannot be in the slightest degree shaken. If on some of the great questions of the day we may chance to differ from him in opinion, we will weigh his arguments, give him credit for rectitude of purpose, *and never descend to personalities*.

Our readers will see in this issue the speech of Mr. Phillips on the impressment resolutions which were adopted by a very large majority of the House, including many members whom the *Confederate* regards as its peculiar friends.

A MEETING of the Trustees of this University was held in this city on Saturday last. We are proud to learn that there was a strong and decided feeling manifested among the Trustees, that the exercises of the institution will be continued under all circumstances. Nothing more sad could happen to a true North Carolinian than to see her time-honored buildings and sacred groves given up as a prey to the spoiler—to be the habitation of the owl and the bat.

THE SUPREME COURT did not open its session on yesterday, on account of the non-arrival of Chief Justice Pearson and Judge Battle.

THE CONCERT to night at the Chapel of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, by the Ladies of the Soldiers Relief Association, will attract a large audience. Get a ticket from the book-Stores or Hotels, and go early if you would secure a seat.

WE LEARN that the force of the enemy who was reported marching on Kinston, was driven back, but we have received no particulars.

HOW TO BE MISERABLE.—Set by the window and look over the way to your neighbor's excellent mansion which he has recently built and paid for and fitted out. "Oh, that I was a rich man!"

Get angry with your neighbor and think you have not a friend in the world. Shed a tear or two and take a walk in the burial ground continually saying to yourself. "When shall I be buried here?"

Sign a note for a friend and never forget your kindness, and every hour in the day whisper to yourself, "I wonder if he will ever pay that note?"

Think everybody mean to cheat you. Closely examine every bill you take, and doubt its being genuine until you have put the owner to a great deal of trouble. Put confidence in nobody, and believe every man you trade with to be a rogue.

Never accommodate if you can possibly help it. Never visit the sick or afflicted, never give a farthing to assist the poor.

Brood over your misfortunes, your lacks of talent, and believe that at no distant day you will come to want. Let the workhouse be ever in your mind, with all the horrors of distress and poverty.

Buy as cheap as you can and screw down to the lowest mill. Grind the faces and hearts of the unfortunate.

Follow these recipes strictly, and you will be miserable to your heart's content, if we may so speak—sick at the heart, and at variance with the world. Nothing will cheer or encourage you, nothing throw a gleam of sunshine or a ray of warmth into your heart.—*Visitor.*

Our Reports on yesterday brought in several prisoners captured near the river some forty miles below this city. One of them was a captain and a dashy looking fellow.—*Chronicle Sentinel.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Dec. 12, 1864.

The Senate was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Mason, of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Patton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the resolutions to procure the release of certain infirm citizens held to active military service, recommending it do pass.

Also, a minority report from said committee, dissenting from the majority report, recommending that the Governor have power to send the Home Guard and State troops out of the State, which was ordered to be printed.

Leave of absence was granted C. R. Thomas, Esq., chief-clerk, for the day.

Mr. Pool, from the committee on Confederate Relations, reported back certain resolutions upon the subject of impressments by the Confederate authorities, and asked that the committee be discharged from the further consideration thereof.

Mr. Matthews introduced a bill to incorporate Stokesbury Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Odom, a bill in reference to impressments, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Ward, resolutions of enquiry as to the legal necessity for the the presence of the General Assembly at the inauguration of His Excellency the Governor, the first of January next.

Messages were received from the House proposing to appoint a joint select committee to enquire into a proper period of adjournment, transmitting a bill fixing the *per diem* of members at $50, and proposing on Wednesday next, at 12 m., to go into an election for Councillor of State, in the two former of which the Senate concurred.

In reference to the election several amendments were offered, and finally, on motion of Mr. Wiggins to that effect, the Senate proposed to go into said election of Councillors at 12 m., on Thursday next.

House bill, passed on Saturday last, to empower the Public Treasurer to issue certain Treasury notes, sell lands, etc., was taken up, and under a suspension of the rules, passed its various readings, Mr. Ellis, prior to the final vote, proposing to amend by referring the propriety of certain acts in the bill to the Governor, which motion was lost by yeas 10, nays 21.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Dargan offered the following:

Resolved, that all of the Home Guard and senior reserves, assigned to light duty be, and the same are hereby discharged from further military service.

Mr. Fowle thought the resolution not only of no practical importance, but amounting to nullification of Confederate laws with which the Legislature had nothing to do; and moved it be laid on the table, which was done.

Mr. Waugh offered a resolution proposing that after Tuesday next, the House sit from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m., and from 7 to 10 p. m. Agreed to.

A so, a resolution proposing to raise a joint Committee to ascertain a time for adjournment. Agreed to, but the Senate did not concur therein.

The bill to provide for the mileage and *per diem* of members was amended so as to allow $50 *per diem*. Passed, and sent to the Senate.

The unfinished business of Friday last—the consideration of the *Habeas Corpus* resolutions, coming up.

Mr. J. H. Headen freely addressed the House, concluding his remarks of last week in favor of their passage, and the resolutions were then agreed to by yeas 63, nays 0. The vote being as follows:

YEAS, Messrs. Allison, Ashworth, Banks, Beam, Bellamy, Best, Blair, Bond of Bertie, Bond of Gates Brown of Madison, Bryan, Caldwell, Calloway, Carson of Rutherford, Carter, Costner, Cowles, Craige, Dargan, Davis of Halifax Duke, Enloe, Erwin, Flynt, Fowle, Gibbs, Gidney, Grissom, Gudger, Hadley Hanes, Harrington, Harrison, Hasell, J H Headen, W. J. Headen, Henry, Herbert, Holton, Horton of Watauga, Horton of Wilkes, Isbell, Jordan, Joyner, Lane Latham, Lewis, Little, Lyle, Mann, McCormick, McGehee, Morisey, Murrill, Patton, Peace, Reinhardt, Riddick, Russell, Shober, Simmons, Smith of Johnston Waugh.

NAYS—Austin, Boyd, Brewe of Mecklenburg, Caho, Cobb, Crawford of Rowan, Faison, Farmer, Grier, Harris, Judkins, Love, Outerbridge, Powell, Shepherd, Smith of Duplin, Stancill, Strong, Wooten.

Mr. Shepherd introduced a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to receive partial payment of taxes due from counties within the enemy's lines, and resolutions of thanks to the Junior Reserves and Home Guard, and authorizing the payment of bounty to soldiers were adopted.

Bills for the support of the N. C. Institution for, the Deaf and Dumb, and the Blind, for the relief of soldiers wives and families, appropriating $800,000 to incorporate the Gorgas and Leroytown Mining and manufacturing companies. The trustees of the La Place High School, Wm R, Davis, and Pee Dee Lodges, A. Y. Masons, and to appoint three additional flour inspectors for the town of Fayetteville. Passed their second readings.

The Senate, a message, disagreed to the House proposition to go into the election of Councillors of State on Wednesday, at 12 m., and named Thursday, at that hour, in which the House concurred.

The House then adjourned.

GOV BONHAM AND THE WAR.

The following is the closing paragraph of the recent Message of Governor Bonham to the Legislature of South Carolina:

Those in whom the treaty making power of the Confederate Government resides, have done all they can with property to show the North, and the world that we are desirious of peace. The President of the United States, on the other hand has repeatedly declared that there can be no peace without submission on our parts and reconstruction. A people who, under such circumstances, could be indeced to resist in efforts to obtain peace, outside of the constitutional mode, are already subjugated. Such a course, with the blood of their sons and brothers still moist on their soil, the wrongs of their outraged women still unavenged, the ruins of their residences and granaries still smoking would be unbecoming the great Confederate people, who, four years since, with so much unanimity and enthusiasm, resolved to maintain at every cost their right to abolish the former government, "and to establish a new government, lay its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness." We can obtain no peace that would not degrade us, except such as we shall secure by the defeat of our enemies.

In this great crisis, which requires the exercise of wisdom, prudence and firmness, I invoke the blessings of Almighty God upon your deliberations.

SALTNESS OF THE SEA.

Surprise has been expressed that vessels going to Sabastopol take a smaller cargo than if they were going to Constantinople, or they diminish their cargo in the latter port before entering the Black sea.

The reason is this—the density of the water in different seas is more or less considerable, and the vessels sailing in them sink more or less according to their density. The density arises from the quantity of salt contained in the water; and consequently, the salter the sea is, the less a vessel sinks in it. As, too, the more sail a vessel carries the deeper she penetrates the water, it follows that the more salt in the water, the greater the quantity of sail that can be carried.

WAR NEWS.

FROM TRANS-MISSISSIPPI.

The Mobile Advertiser gives us the annexed late news from the Trans-Mississippi Department:

There is no reasonable doubt that by this time Fort Smith is in our possession, leaving in the far western portion of the Department no Yankie forces except about 1,000 men at Fort Gibson, in the Cherokee country, which can be easily overpowered, if nesesary, but does not interfere with our movements. Stand Watie rules that country, having captured numerous trains since his big haul in September.

The Choctaws, Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles, have upwards of 7 000 men in arms, and are firmly united in the Southern cause. About 2,000 Cherokees and Creeks went off to the Yankees with Ross, but it is the opinion of Watie that not more than 400 or 500 of them are left.

Mr. Bondinot confirms the report of Col. Brooks' capture of a train of 50 or 60 wagons between Fayetteville and the Missouri line, just previous to the capture of Fayetteville.

The Yankees still hold Little Rock on sufferance. Magruder could capture the place, but it would not pay.

At the latest news from Gen Price, previous to the capture of Fayetteville, he was at Cane Hill with 33,000 men, a portion of whom are in need of arms. He had great trouble in getting out of Missouri, with his immense spoils, being hard pressed by the enemy, but sustained no disaster except at the capture of Marmaduke and Cambell, on which occasion he lost about three hundred men. All the other Yankee stories of their success over him are fables. At latest accounts his train, numbering 1,280 to 1,300 wagons, was crossing the Arkansas between Fort Smith and Fort Gibson.

All the Western people, especially the Missourians, are well satisfied with the results, and Gen. Parsons says, "Tell my Missouri friends that the Missouri expedition has been a complete success."

The object of the return of the expediton was as has been declared by a high authority in those matters, to secure the spoils of the campaign and place arms in the hands of the numerous recruits.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

$40,000 Internal Improvement North Carolina State Bonds for Sale!

WILL BE SOLD IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH, N. C. AT the Auction rooms of Creech & Litchford, on Thursday, 22d December, Forty Thousand dollars North Carolina twenty year Coupon bonds. These bonds were issued for the benefit of the Chatham R. R. Company and are secured by a special sinking fund provided for their redemption when due. No better investment can be found.

Copies of the laws authorizing the issue can be had on application to the undersigned or to Messrs. Creech & Litchford Commission Merchants and Auctioneers.

KEMP P. BATTLE
President C. R. R. Co.
Dec 13, 1864. 200—dtd.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE DONORS TO THE North Carolina Orphan Endowment Fund and of the Directors in the basement of the Baptist Church, in the city of Raleigh, on Thursday the 15th of Dec; at 11 o'clock A. M.

A full attendance is desirable.

GEO. W. MORDECAI.
C. F. DEMS. Financial Agent.
Raleigh, Dec. 12, 1864. 199—3t.

IMPORTANT SALE POSTPONED TO WEDNESDAY, 14th INST.

THE SALE OF LIVE STOCK WILL TAKE PLACE THIS day at 10 o'clock.

Also, will be sold one likely Boy 17 years old excellant waitman and house servant faithful and trusty.

One beautiful young Blooded Mare—one good two horse Wagon and Harness, and a lot of dry North Carolina Salt.

JAMES M. TOWLES.
December 12th, 1864. 199—1*

LOST.

THE GENTLEMAN WHO FOUND A BLANK BOOK, containining sundry papers, at the Depot in Raleigh, on Friday night, the 2d inst., will confer a great favor by addressing me a note at Yadkinville, N. C.

DAVID H. RAY.
Dec. 9th, 1864. 198—3t.*

NEGROES AT AUCTION.

ON THURSDAY, 29TH DECEMBER, WILL BE SOLD in front of our sales room—one Negro Woman 30 years old, an excellent Washer, Ironer and Seamstress, one Negro Man 44 years old, good field hand, one Woman 37 years old with two children.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,
Commission Merchants and Auctioneers.
December 8, 1864. 196 eodtds*

JUST RECEIVED.

A CONSIGNMENT OF 40 KEGS NAILS ASSORTED sizes. Also on hand 6 cases of pure Catawba Wine.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,
Commission Merchants and Auctioneers.
Dec. 9, 1864. 197—4t

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

THE ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS OF THE LATE C. T Iredell have been placed in my hands for collection, embracing those of Iredell Brothers. Persons indebted under either head are respectfully requested to make immediate payment as the administrator is anxious to settle up the business of the estate. I can be seen at the office of the "Conservative."

J. J. LANSDELL,
October 18, 1864. 153—tf.

S. T. WILDER,
Auction and Commission Merchant,
LOUISBURG, N. C.

Will make sales of real estate or personal property, merchandise, provisions, flour, grain, salt, &c., and solicits consignments. Frank Hinton is the nearest depot.

Oct. 31, 1864. 164—2m*

NOTICE.

WILL BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ON Tuesday, the 13th December, at the residence of Samuel Brittle, d'c'd, in Southampton county, Va., 2½ miles from Boykin's Depot, all of his crop of Corn, Fodder, Cotton, stock of Mules, Cows, Fat and out Hogs, farming utensils, &c.

E. W. BRITTLE, Executor.
December 7, 1864. 196—5t*

Southern Express Company.
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

ON AND AFTER THIS DATE ALL BOXES which are securely fastened and strapped, containing stores for the N. C. Troops in the field, marked to the care of Surgeon General Warren, Raleigh, will be forwarded without expense to either shipper or consignor, and will have preference over all other freight excepting that of the same class from other States.

L. F. BATES
Assistant Sup't.
Nov. 25, 1864. 184—2w.

INSPECTOR'S NOTICE.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAR. I GENERAL ORders, No. 81, A. and I. G. O current series, all persons in 5th Congressional District between the ages of 17 and 50 years holding certificates of permanent exemption by reason of disability, also those assigned to light duty will report at the following times and places for Inspection:

COUNTY.	PLACE.	TIME.
Orange,	Hillsboro,	Dec. 2d and 3d.
Wake,	Raleigh,	" 5, 6 and 7th.
Franklin,	Louisburg,	" 9th and 10th.
Granville,	Oxford,	" 12, 13 and 14.
Warren,	Warrenton,	" 15th.
Nash,	Nashville,	" 19th and 20

Prompt compliance with this notice is expected, and any person or persons failing to attend will be subjected to arrest by conscript guard and forwarded for re-examination by Select Board at Camp Holmes. When the party is unable on account of sickness to attend on the days appointed, the attending physician's certificate must be presented, which must contain the exact physical condition of the party—the nature and extent of the disease or wound.

Wm. M SWANN.
Capt. and Ins. 3d Con. Dist. N. C.
Nov. 30, 1864. 190—2w.

WANTED.
OFFICE OF CHIEF Q. M.,
Raleigh, 6th Dec., 1864.

I NEED GOOD SHOEMAKERS.—ALL SURGEONS of Examining Boards, who may find such experts unfit for duty in the field, are requested to order the parties to report to me for duty in Government Shops.

W. W. PEIRCE,
196—d3t. Maj. and Q. M.

FAYETTEVILLE NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY ACADEMY.

THE FIRST SESSION OF THIS INSTITUTION will commence 1st of February, 1865.

Applications for admission must be made prior to the 1st January, 1865, about which time the terms will be made known.

Also, wanted two teachers of military education and a coward in this institution. Address

Maj. WM. A. BANKS,
Superintendent.
October 24, 1864. 158—tf.

NOTICE.

HAVING QUALIFIED AS ADMINISTRATRIX UPon the estate of the late W. J. Strickland, I will sell on the 22d day of this month, (December) at his late residence, a lot of horses and mules, cattle, hogs, sheep, corn, and fodder, wheat rye, farming tools household and kitchen furniture, a lot of good Brandy and many other things too numerous to mention.

Terms of sale six months credit, bond and approved security required of purchaser.

Also a number of negroes will be hired Dec'r 22d, 1864.

SOPHIA A. STRICKLAND, Administratrix.
By Rufus J. Ivey Agent.
Dec. 6, 1864. 194—3t

THE BINGHAM SCHOOL,
A Military and Classical Finishing Academy

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BEGIN FEBRUARY 1st, 1865, at Mebanesville, on the North Carolina Railroad. While the old course has been retained, extensive additions have been made, with a view to making good SOLDIERS, as well as good scholars. Address

COL. WM. BINGHAM,
Superintendent.
Oaks, N. C., Nov. 21, 1864. 181—93t*

SWEEDS IRON IN EXCHANGE FOR PORK.

I HAVE A SMALL LOT OF SWEEDS IRON SUITable for plows, that I will exchange with farmers for young fat pork pound for pound, hogs weighing above 100 pounds each, under 100 lbs pound of iron for pound and a quarter of pork. My iron is in bars of 150 to 175 lbs. each, and no fixtures for cutting, best bring pork to agree in weight with the iron. This exchange will be made only between the 1st and 15th January, 1865. Contracts had best be made between this and the 1st January.

Sheetings and Cotton Yarns expected by the 15th inst., for sale at small advance on cost.

W. H. AVERA,
Smithfield N. C.
December 7, 1864. 196—6t*.

☞ Standard copy in Weekly two weeks.

ORPHAN ENDOWMENT FUND.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS FUND MAY BE MADE to Geo. W. Mordecai Jno. G. Williams and W H Jones, Cashier.

C. F. DEMS.
Raleigh, Oct. 29, 1864. 263—tf.

FOR RENT.

THE BRICK STORE AND DWELLING HOUSE ON Fayetteville Street adjoining Mr. James M. Towles is for rent for the ensuing year.

T. H. SELBY.
Dec. 2, 1864. 191—tf.
Progress copy till forbid.

LOST

A FEW NIGHTS AGO AT YARBOROUGH'S HOTEL a piece of gold weighing twenty pennyweights. A liberal reward will be paid at this office to the finder.

Sorghum Mills and Boilers.

JUST RECEIVED, FROM SAPONA IRON WORKS, ANother supply of two and three Roller mills and Boilers from 30 to 100 gallons. Kept constantly on hand a large supply of Ovens, Spiders, and extra Lids.

JAMES M. TOWLES, Agt.,
for Sapona Iron Works.
August 13th, 1864. 97—tf.

Important Sale of Valuable Negroes at Auction.

WILL BE SOLD IN FRONT OF OUR SALES ROOM ON Tuesday, the 13th Dec., 30 Valuable Negroes, consisting of men and women, among them a good blacksmith, and one good shoe maker, a number of young women, girls, boys, and children, cooks, house servants and field hands. Taking all together, the most valuable and desirable lot of negroes that have been offered for sale in this market. Persons in want of valuable young servants would do well to attend this sale as it affords a rare opportunity to supply themselves. They are sold for no fault.

CREECH & LITCHFORD,
Auct. and Com. Mer.
Dec. 6, 1864. 194—td.

MACHINERY AT PUBLIC AUCTION.

ON THE 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT AT THE Deep River Armory or Cotton Mills 3½ miles from James town Depot, we will sell at public auction the following articles of Machinery, viz: Turning Lathe, Drill Presses, Smoothing Shafting and Boring Machines, Shafting, Hangers and Pulleys of various sizes and kinds, a large lot of Belting, Blacksmiths Tools and about twenty thousand pounds of Iron. The sale will continue from day to day until the articles are disposed of. Terms cash.

MENDENHALL, JONES & GARDNER.
Nov. 30, 1864. 189—d2w.

BOXES FOR SOLDIERS.

ALL BOXES FOR SOLDIERS OR PRISONERS OF War from North Carolina, delivered to the following named persons will be promptly forwarded free of charge:

Sprague Brothers, Salisbury.
Dr D F Summey, Asheville.
Dr W A Collett, Morganton.
Dr J W Allison, Statesville.
Dr J L Neagle, Greensboro'.
Mr A Hagan, Charlotte.
Mr Edward Rege, Salem.
Capt J N McIlhenny, Raleigh.
Joseph A Worth, Fayetteville.
E Murray & Co., Wilmington.
Mr F L Bond, Tarboro.
Mr J A J Askew, Colerain.
Mr F L Roberts, Murfreesboro.

The Boxes should be well hooped, properly marked, and delivered in time for my Special Messenger who leaves Raleigh on the first day of every month

EDWARD WARREN,
Surgeon General N. C.
Raleigh, Oct. 29, 1864. 163—tf.

Post Q. M. Department, C. S. A.,
RALEIGH, Dec. 6, 1864.

I WISH TO HIRE (3) THREE NO. 1 TEAMSTERS FOR Capt. S. S. Kirkland, A. Q. M., Hillsboro', N. C.

(6) Six Stout Laborers to be forage from J. J. Mincree, Agent Q. M. Department, Raleigh. Pay, $37 50 per month, medical attendance and rations.

195—6t. W. B. PEIRCE, Capt. & A. Q. M.

FOR RENT FOR 1865,

A PLEASANT FAMILY RESIDENCE, IN THIS CITY situated two hundred yards east of the Yarborough Hotel, in a large grove. The residence contains five rooms, supplied with gas,

excellent kitchen and all necessary outhouses. A large garden containing nearly an acre of land. Possession given first of January 1865.

Apply to, J. KINSEY,
Nov. 19 1864. 180—dtf

Headquarters Reserve, N. C.,
Raleigh Dec. 1st, 1864.

General Orders
No. 19.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR RESERVES OF NORTH Carolina who are absent from their commands without proper authority, are ordered to rejoin them without delay. County Enrolling Officers are made responsible for the apprehension of such as do not at once comply with this order.

By command of Lt. Gen. HOLMES.

JNO. W. HINSDALE,
A. A. General.
Dec. 2, 1864 191—

NOTICE.

AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN Wright, deceased, I shall proceed to sell in the town of Goldsboro', on Thursday, the 5th of January next several valuable Negroes, one Shoemaker, and one Farm Blacksmith in the lot. At the same time and place, will sell some articles of Furniture. We will also hire out for the balance of the year some other negroes, connected with the settlement of the estate.

Terms made known on day of sale.

WM. B. EDMUNDSON, Adm'r
Goldsboro', Dec 6, 1864. 196—3t.

FIVE HUNDRED HANDS WANTED.

FIVE HUNDRED HANDS WANTED TO WORK on the grading and laying of the Chatham Railroad. The highest market price will be given, and hands well taken care of.

Also, 100 Carpenters.

Also, a Portable Steam Saw Mill wanted.

Apply to KEMP P. BATTLE,
President, Raleigh, N. C.
or to J. E. ALLEN, Sup't.,
Gary, N. C.
Dec. 8, 1864. 196—tf.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS.

[OF THE SOUTHERN PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1861, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States of the Northern District of Georgia.

Congressional,

RICHMOND, Dec. 10.

Senate was not in session yesterday.

In the House, an exemption bill reported from Military Committee to repeal all former laws, and proposes to exempt all unfit for military service, Vice President, members and officers of Congress, State Legislatures, and such other Confederate State officers as the President or laws of the respective States may declare to be necessary.

Ministers of religion not engaged in buying and selling for profit, employees of asylums, one editor for each newspaper, such practical printers and pressmen as are indispensable for publication. One skilled apothecary in each store, all practicing physicians heretofore exempt, not engaged in buying and selling, their fees to be fixed by the board of commissioners of each State.

All teachers heretofore exempted, railroad employees renewed with some modification.

Persons on religious grounds, continued on condition that they pay an annual tax of five hundred dollars, and sell surplus products at schedule prices. A section authorizes the President to grant other exemptions or details on account of public necessity, of justice or equity.

From Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Dec. 11.

The enemy attacked our forces at Hicksford on Friday and was signally repulsed. Yesterday morning he retreated and was closely pursued by our Cavalry during the retreat. The enemy's flank was several times struck by our forces, who it is believed did much execution, and captured a number of prisoners. The enemy's column now thought retiring discomfited, to our front, having been successful only in robbing, citizens of Sussex County. A division of the enemys Infantry with Cavalry advanced upon our right yesterday, but were handsomely driven back with the loss of a few prisoners, some killed and wounded.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Dec. 11.

An official telegram from Gen. Lee, yesterday says Hampton after driving the enemy's cavalry up on his infantry in the afternoon on the 9th, recrossed the Nottaway and reached Belfield at daylight.

Yesterday in the afternoon, the enemy attacked our position, but were successfully resisted.

This morning the enemy is reported retiring, and Hampton following.

The bridge over Merherin was saved.

Our loss as far as known, is small.

The garrison under Garnett, and the reserves behaved well.

About noon yesterday, the first division of the second corps of the enemy supporting their cavalry forced back our cavalry pickets on the Vaughan road, south of the Appomattox, and advanced towards Dinwiddie Court House. To-day, our cavalry being reinforced by infantry, drove them back across Harper's run, capturing a few prisoners and re establishing our lines.

European News.

RICHMOND, Dec. 11.

European advices of the 22d ult., reported at Southampton that Semmes' new ship sprung leak and wrecked off Maderia.

The *Times* comments on the re election of Lincoln says England would be safer in his, than other hands. He has gone through the course of defining and instituting England, and we hope will not repeat the experiment.

Confederate loan advanced, closing at 62½.

Cotton advanced two per cent

The London Times commenting on Webb's letter says the English nation is not easily moved by unseemly language, but allows words however offensive to pass by without regard. It says Webb's letter is not of the slightest political importance. It only shows the temper in which certain men representing the most powerful seation of the American's are accustomed to think and talk.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Dec. 11.

Northern papers of the 9th, says Nashville telegrams of Thursday, reports matters at the front unchanged.

Several Federal gun boats attempted unsuccessfully on Wednesday night, to destroy the Confederate battery about fourteen miles below Nashville.

Forrest is said to have crossed the Cumberland.

The impression prevails in Nashville, that Hood is evacuating his position, and is afraid to risk an attack, but is supposed to have commenced a movement to Kentucky.

Chase has been appointed successor to Taney.

In the Senate on Thursday, Davis gave notice on a joint resolution for the restoration of peace and union.

Seward in a letter to Minister Adams refuses to allow agents of the Liverpool Bazaar to visit Military prisons in Northern States to distribute aid to the Confederate prisoners.

The letter is very sarcastic upon British sympathisers with Confederates, and thinks insurgents in common with all our country men will rejoice in being saved by their loyal Government from grave insult by Lord Wharncliff and associates.

Gold closed on the 8th at two forty.

RICHMOND, Dec. 12.

New York papers of the 10th have been received.

Nashville telegrams of the 9th report the weather very cold. A heavy storm of snow and hail prevailed all day.

The rebel line appears intact. No indications of an attack, or of the rebels running away. A gunboat went down the river again on the 9th and engaged and silenced the rebel batteries and returned to the city.

The rebels are still throwing up earthworks. A rebel Brigade has gone in the direction of Murfreesboro. Prisoners report Cheatham in command of the right, Lee of the centre and Steward of the left.

Gold closed on the 9th at 240.

From Georgia.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 12.

In the fight at Coosawahatcha on Friday, Brig. Gen. Gantwell was badly wounded in the side by a shell. Notwithstanding his severe wound he remained on the field until the fight closed and was brought to Augusta Sunday.

WANTED,

A LADY AS A GOVERNESS QUALIFIED TO teach the English branches, French, Latin, and music, in a private family near Raleigh. Address BOX NO. 58, Raleigh, N. C. References given and required.

Dec. 10, 1864. 198—d4t.

Negroes Wanted at Pettigrew Hospital.

WANTED FOR THE ENSUING YEAR FIFTY OR SIXty negroes, men, and women, as nurses, cooks and laundresses. The women must not be encumbered with children. Good rations and comfortable quarters will be furnished, and the highest price paid by government

Apply to H. H. PETTIT.
Hospital steward Pettigrew Hospital.
Dec. 10, 1864. 198—dtood.

To the Members of the N. C. Senate.

GENTLEMEN: I RESPECTFULLY ANNOUNCE myself as Candidate for the office of Principal Clerk of the Senate, vice C. R. Thomas, Esq., elected Secretary of State.

Very respectfully,
Your ob't serv't.
FRANK I. WILSON.
Dec. 10, 1864. 198—d1t*